



THE ENDEAVOR

A PUBLICATION OF THE STEGE SANITARY DISTRICT OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

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SERVING EL CERRITO, KENSINGTON, AND RICHMOND ANNEX

Summer 2022

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President

Juliet Christian-Smith
Vice President

Paul Gilbert-Snyder
Director

Alan C. Miller
Director

Beatrice O'Keefe
Director

DISTRICT MANAGER/ ENGINEER

Rex Delizo, P.E.

MISSION STATEMENT

To protect public health and the environment for the communities we serve through planning and operation of a safe, efficient, and economical wastewater collection system.

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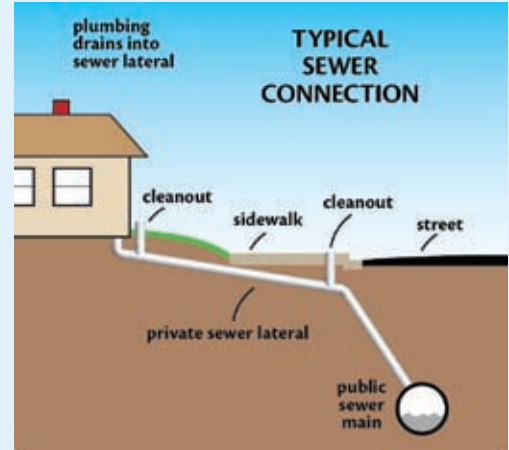
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Private Sewer Laterals (PSL)

A private sewer lateral (PSL) is the pipe that carries wastewater from the home or business to the sanitary sewer main, usually located in the street. In Stege Sanitary District, the property owner is responsible for maintaining the entire sanitary sewer lateral up to and including the connection at the sanitary sewer main.



INTEREST-FREE PSL REPLACEMENT LOAN PROGRAM

Replace your cracked Private Sewer Lateral (PSL) with an interest-free loan from Stege Sanitary District

If your home was built before 1970, there is a good chance your sewer lateral needs to be replaced. Even newer homes can have cracked pipes from earth movement and tree root intrusion.

Cracked sewer laterals can cause wastewater to back up into the house, resulting in a messy and expensive cleanup. A plumber will be able to determine if your lateral needs replacement. Many plumbers provide free estimates for their work. Always get at least three estimates before deciding on a plumber. There is a list of contractors registered to work in the District on our website, www.stegesd.org.

Cracked sewer laterals also endanger the environment. Rainwater and groundwater seep into the sewer system through cracked PSL pipes. Excess water in the system can overwhelm wastewater treatment facilities, causing untreated or partially treated sewage to be released into the Bay. Replacing cracked PSLs helps protect the Bay.

To aid homeowners in replacing their PSLs, Stege Sanitary District is launching the **PSL Replacement Loan Program**. Through this program, property owners can borrow up to \$10,000 to replace their private sewer lateral. The loan is interest-free and repayable over ten years. Property owners repay the loan through their yearly property tax bill. There is no prepayment penalty.

For more information and an application, go to www.stegesd.org. Loans will be made until there are no longer any funds. 💰

Backflow Prevention Device

If your house lateral is not far enough above the rim of the next upstream sewer maintenance hole and there is an extraordinarily high volume of water in the main, or if a blockage downstream forces sewage back upstream, you could find sewage coming back out of the drains in your house.

You can prevent this from happening by installing a backflow prevention device (BPD) on your lateral. The District requires BPDs on all new buildings, on laterals that have been repaired or replaced, and on existing buildings that have drain outlets 12" or less above the rim of the next upstream maintenance hole. The overflow device, which is installed outside, provides an emergency escape path should wastewater back up in your lateral.

Installing a backflow prevention device requires a permit, which is available at the District's office at 7500 Schmidt Lane in El Cerrito. **S**



Mushroom type BPD

JUNETEENTH

June 19th is officially recognized as Juneteenth, the day when enslaved peoples in Texas learned of the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation that had been issued by President Lincoln more than two years earlier.

Starting this year, June 19th will be recognized annually as an official paid holiday of the District.

Observing days of cultural remembrance such as Juneteenth is part of the District's commitment to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion. **S**

DRAFT Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget

REVENUE

Sewer Operation Fund

Non Operating Income:	
Interest	15,000
Miscellaneous	21,000
Operating Income:	
Permit & Inspection Fees	12,000
Sewer Service Charges	3,209,000
Contracted Services	33,000
Subtotal	3,290,000

Capital Fund

Non-Operating Income:	
Interest	5,000
Operating Income:	
Property Tax	500,000
Capital Service Charges	3,775,000
Connection Fees	50,000
San Pablo Ave. Impact Fee	50,000
Subtotal	4,380,000

TOTAL REVENUE 7,670,000

EXPENSES

Operating Expenses:

Maintenance/Engineering	2,225,474
Pump Stations	40,020
Contracted Repairs	70,000
General & Administration	992,307

Subtotal

Operating Expenses 3,328,307

Capital Expenses

Capital Equipment	355,000
Debt Repayment -SRF Loan	43,900
Sewer Rehabilitation	3,833,150
Subtotal Capital Expenses	4,232,050

Other Expenses

Transfer from Capital Fund	-
Retiree Medical Fund	-

TOTAL EXPENSES 7,560,357

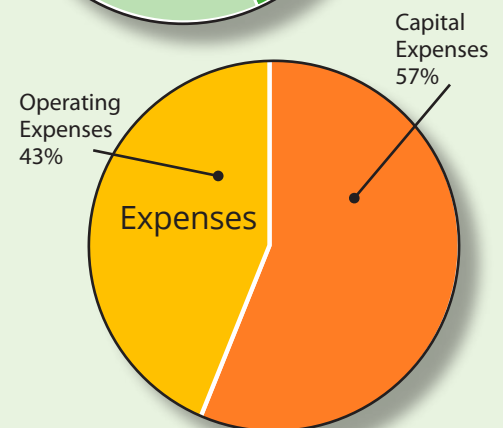
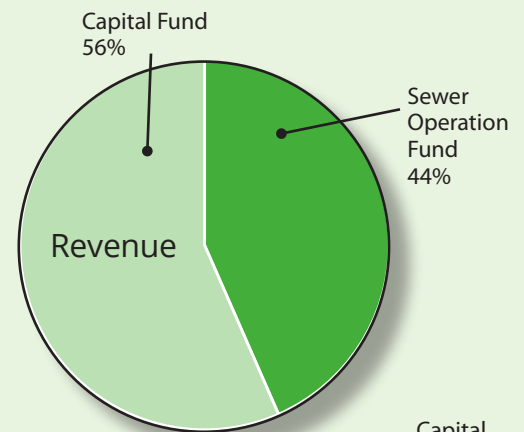
Transfer to/(from) Reserves

Revenue	7,670,000
Expenses	7,560,357

Subtotal 109,643

TRANSFER

TO/(FROM) RESERVES 109,643



The District adheres to an investment policy for reserve funds that complies with state statutes and stipulates safety, liquidity, and yields as the order of investment objectives. All currently invested funds are with the State Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF).


Two Different Underground Systems

You might think that all those maintenance hole covers you see in the streets lead to the same system of underground pipes. They don't.

The Stege Sanitary District is responsible for the collection and transport of wastewater from homes, schools, and businesses within its boundaries to the EBMUD wastewater treatment plant in Oakland. The District's service area includes the cities of Kensington, El Cerrito, and part of the Richmond Annex. These areas employ a separate storm drain system that collects rainwater runoff from the streets and deposits the water into creeks that eventually lead to San Francisco Bay.

It's important that homeowners do not pipe rainwater, either from house gutters or a sump pump, into the wastewater system. The District's sanitary system is not designed to handle the large volume of runoff from a rainstorm. Overflows of the wastewater sewers might occur if rainwater is diverted into this system. Rainwater should be directed into the street, ground, or directly to the storm drain system.

Piping rainwater into the sewer system violates District, federal, and local ordinances. Penalties and fines may be imposed for these violations.

If you see a maintenance hole overflowing in the street immediately call the District at (510) 524-4667 and we will promptly send a maintenance team to evaluate the situation. 




Sewer maintenance hole cover

Storm drain




Reminders


Sewer Problems? CALL US FIRST!

If you see water backing up into your home, **call Stege at (510) 524-4667 before you call a plumber.** It is answered 24/7 by a real person. The problem may be in your lateral, or it may be in the sewer main. If necessary, we will send a crew out to investigate. The inspection is free and we try to respond within one hour. 

Keep FOG out of Drains

Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) solidify when poured down the drain, causing clogs and blockages in plumbing. Never pour FOG down the drain. 


Put Wipes in the Trash, Not the Toilet

Disposable "flushable" wipes don't disintegrate in water. Instead they accumulate in sewers where they can cause a sewer overflow into your home or into the street. Put all wipes where they belong—in the trash. 



Redesigned Web site



It's now even easier to find everything you need on the District's newly redesigned website, www.stegesan.org. The District's redesigned website is compliant with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 508, and Website Content Accessibility (WCAG). For more information on accessibility, go to www.getstreamline.com/accessibility. 



STEGE SANITARY DISTRICT
 7500 Schmidt Lane
 El Cerrito, CA 94530-0537 (510) 524-4667

PRSRT STD
 US POSTAGE
PAID
 Oakland, CA
 PERMIT NO. 379

To Contact Us: 24/7 Phone: (510) 524-4667 Email: staff@stegesano.org Web: www.stegesano.org Twitter: @StegeSan

Per AB 361, public meetings will continue to be held virtually. Go to www.stegesano.org for details.


STEGE SANITARY DISTRICT 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

In 2022, three positions on the Stege Sanitary District Board of Directors will be up for election.

The Board is proud of the District’s history of inclusion and diversity in the workplace and management. It believes the District best serves the needs of its community when it represents the rich and varied backgrounds of its residents. The Board invites community members to consider running for the office of Stege Sanitary District Director in the upcoming election.

The Board is committed to an open transpar-

ent governance. It meets once or twice monthly on a Thursday at 7:00 pm to discuss the business of the District. To learn more about the responsibilities, core beliefs, and compensation of the Board of Directors, go to www.stegesano.org. Candidates must be United States citizens, at least 18 years-of-age, and must reside within the boundaries of Stege Sanitary District.

Procedures, deadlines and nomination papers may be obtained from the Contra Costa County Election Office, 555 Escobar Street, Martinez, CA 94553, (925) 335-7800, www.cocovote.us. 

Spotlight on Service

Worker’s Compensation Excellence Award



In February, the District was presented with the California Sanitation Risk Management Authority (CSRMA) Workers’ Compensation Excellence Award.

The award recognizes agencies whose risk management training programs and procedures contribute to a safe working environment.

In order to be considered for the award, Stege needed to demonstrate above average competence in eight different categories, including having a plan in place to help injured employees return to work.

As part of the award, Stege employees received a cash gift card and a wall plaque. 